UNITED STATES NATIONAL MUSEUM

UNDER DIRECTION OF

THE SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTION

WASHINGTON Augst 17th 95

Dear Mr. Robinson.

Your favor of the 12th inst was found here on my return from the Adirondacks. The U. S. Nat. Museum will be glad to receive those nests & eggs of Venezuelan Birds, particularly as they are positively identified and you have the parents for each, otherwise they would have been of little use. I enclose a couple of franks for mailing them.

Yours Sincerely
Chas Bendire
Curator Oological Dept.

MUSEUM OF COMPARATIVE ZOÖLOGY,
CAMBRIDGE, MASS.

July 27, 1897.

Dear Mr. Robinson:

I am not sure that I can help you as to your moth. If it belongs in the same family with imperialis and regalis it must be a Sphingicampa. There are several species and varieties. S. bicolor is however the only one that has been raised so far as I know; it feeds on Gleditschia. Dryocampa, Anisota, Sphingicampa, Citheronia, and Eacles are all the Ceratocampids we have. Do you know Hepialus?

I am glad Mrs. Robinson is improving. I suppose you have had your share

of the hot weather. We have had some but yesterday fires were not out of place.

Yours truly
Saml Henshaw

As to specimens you know my general tastes; just now I am interested in Dragon flies & Cerambycidae.

DSI

Museum of Comparative Zoölogy,

CAMBRIDGE, MASS.

July 24, 1897.

My dear Lieutenant:—

Yours is at hand with the regretful news of Mrs. Robinson's illness. May she recover rapidly and completely. With our warmest sympathies for your family and your self.

As for your expedition the delay may be for good luck in the end. The trip will probably be accomplished later and possibly to greater advantage.

Give those preparations no thought whatever. There was no expense.

Cordially Yours,

S. Garman.

Samuel Garman
American Zoologist
authority on sharks
listed

DSI

UNITED STATES NATIONAL MUSEUM
UNDER DIRECTION OF
THE SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTION
WASHINGTON

December 31, 99.

Dear Lieut Robinson.

The Motonia and your interesting letter were duly received, and I can assure you that both give me very great pleasure. Thank you very much for the specimen. I never saw a finer example of the species.

I hope you will continue your work on the mammals at West Point and let me include your notes in one of the supplements to my list, or better yet publish them in the 'Observer' yourself. I suggest this medium on account of Fisher's Sing Sing list being printed

there.

My 'key' I have lost all interest in. They have fooled and dawdled so over the M. S. that the life has all gone out of it. Still when proof begins to come in I may feel more enthusiasm. The plan is somewhat different from that of any other key that I have seen, and I am somewhat curious to see whether it will be more muddling than most such. By Northeastern N. A. I mean Atlantic slope north of Lower Austral zone - This seems to me a natural limitation, and it throws out Dismal Swamp and its puzzles as they are Lower Austral.

With best wishes and compliments of the season

Sincerely yours
Gerrit S. Miller Jr.

DSI

Cocoanut Grove, Fla.
Nov. 12. 1897.

My dear Mr. Robinson:

Will you kindly send me by return mail if you have not destroyed it the envelope of my letter. I am too provoked for any thing at the irregularity of mails from here and have had other complaints. So if I can get documentary evidence to send to the P.O. Dept. I am going to make it lively for some of these country P.O. masters. Your letter reached me as it should in 3½ days and mine should have taken no longer. Yes, I have saved you a batch of those Zamia butterflies in papers and a few other things tho' not much for to get the good things one has to go to special localities and watch and wait which over occupied as I am I cannot do. You would enjoy this place and in the spring when sphinxes are about it must be fine. I am going to send you a second lot of chrysalids of the Zamia b. so you can have perfect specimens if I can find so receptacle

Nov 22. 1897 rec'd

to put them into. They are lovely are they not but so stupid that you can pick them off flowers by the dozen with the finger and thumb. I caught you a nice leaf butterfly the other day. Do you want the common black and yellow long winged affair (I forget the name) so will put in one if I can find it. There is a big orange b. here that I have not yet got in good condition. You don't want things like Thoas and the dark Danais or P. proteus do you all common or have been. I enclose a battered specimen that I knocked down with my hat of a two tailed affair I have seen from tropic climes. If you want one very much I will try hard to get a good one. Pray excuse this scribble and do not forget to send that envelope as soon as possible.

Very Sincerely Yours
In haste!
Roland Thaxter.

I may be here two weeks longer.

DSI

Cocoanut Grove. Fla.
Oct. 30. 1897.

Dear Mr. Robinson:

I mailed you yesterday a package of chrysalids of the lovely Zamia butterfly which should begin to hatch very soon if you keep them in a warm place. If they did not reach you safely let me know and I will send some more as they are abundant in this region. There are a good many butterflies about, mostly common Junias, Agraulis and the like but a few that are new to me. The latter unluckily rare and hard to get. I am so busy with my "profession" that I cannot spend the time I should like to spend at Entomology and I usually have so many implements to carry that I really cannot add a butterfly net. If I ever get my bicycle for which I have sent I will see if I cannot hitch it on and catch you something. This is evidently not the season for moths and I have seen no sphinxes. It must be a

great place in the spring of the year.

That little befungused hopper you sent me was very nice. I have found it in the Carolina mountains but it is always rare and is probably new. I am getting lots of things here but nothing on insects. The climate is perfection and one only needs a congenial companion for ones rambles. I hope when I return to Boston in December that I shall see the moths you captured this summer, there must be many interesting ones among them.

Please give my kindest regards to Mrs. Robinson. I hope she is wholly over her rheumatic troubles now.

Very Sincerely Yours
Roland Thaxter.

Nov 8. 1897

DSI

C. B. TAYLOR.

Vienna Cottage
~~22, Rae Street,~~ Mandeville
~~Rae Town, Kingston~~

23rd Septr. 1908

My dear Captn. Robinson,

Yours of 22 ulto, & Box of Flies, duly found me here - about 3 weeks ago, & I would have acknowledged receipt right away, but for the past six weeks I have been very seedy with fever, & too overcome to tackle my Correspondence.

Thanks, many, for Specimens, which will ~~make~~ fill a big blank in my Exotic Collection.

For fear of damp & mould, I have only glanced hastily over the lot, but I am sure there are many good things: Will be very glad to get a perfect pair of Luna whenever you can spare specimens.

Before proceeding farther, let me Congratulate you on your Escape from

what may have proved a fatal accident: reading your description of the occurrence gave me the "creeps". I sincerely trust you have entirely recovered from any after effects.

Prepared tho' I was to hear you had had good luck with Homerus, yet I must confess to a feeling of astonishment, not alone at the number of captures, but as well at the apparent abundance of this fly.

In Zoological collecting, it seems to me, a Sp: is rare or scarce only until its — headquarters are found; and as you say the rarity of Homerus has been unduly exaggerated! At the same time I doubt if this Fly is as abundant each season: as you must know, there are good & bad years with Lepidoptera, as with other things.

I say this because a few years ago a young English Collector went over the same ground you worked, & about the same time of year

2

C. B. TAYLOR.

22, Rae Street,

Rae Town, Kingston,

190

yet he never saw a single Homerus; the natives told him, however, it was common some seasons. Homerus occurs in a part of St Anns, & I am told a number have been taken there. I am so anxious to get a few good specimens for my own collection. I am planning a trip to "Cuna Cuna," after the October rains. I shall therefore be much obliged if you will let me have a copy of the sketch plan you refer to in your letter. I know only one chap here who collects, & he will be unable to accompany me. Of course chasing specimens, is now quite beyond my strength, so I must employ help, or trust to luck to get a chance at some low flying individual. The food plant you describe, is I think the same as I

found at Hot Springs; the larva is a very pretty creature. The small Ithomia you took, I have seen, but never succeeded in capturing; I also know the Blue Thecla from Bath. Strange you did not see Urania, it should occur at that altitude. I must try & get a friend to go to "Abbey Green" for specimens, they are usually abundant in that district & occur right down to December; in fact they are sometimes called "Christmas flies"

Thysania & Nyctalaemon are common enough, the former I get every year in or around Kingston; the latter comes to light in all parts of Jamaica (Kingston excepted) Up here 2 or 3 very battered examples came to light, no good. Do you know that Nyctalaemon has the same habits as Erebus, hiding in dark places, & suddenly darting out? A fine example

C. B. TAYLOR.

22, Rae Street,

Rae Town, Kingston,

190

of the Erebidae occurs in Bath District; a light brown Insect with fenestrate spots on fore wing; it seems scarce.

The grey Sphinx that mimics tetrio, is brontes. We have 3 sp: of Cocytius here, but not (I think) duponchelii. I shall try my best to supply all your desiderata, & if I can only recover some little of my former strength & activity, there will be little difficulty in succeeding. Thanks specially for P. buddha; I have some very fine Indian & African Papilios, but not that sp:. I never refuse Papilios, so any you may send me will be welcome.

You have some fine Sphingidae in the Southern States, I understand; in the dealers lists these are priced very high.

Over leaf is the address of a young friend

of mine living in this Parish who is interested in Lepidoptera & who may be willing to assist you in getting the Sp: you list:

E. Stuart Panton
Alston
Spaldings P/O
Jamaica

Please Excuse this badly written letter. I am quite silly from the Effects of Quinine. Got Imperial moth from Customs O.K: it will make a fair specimen when Relaxed & Spread.

Kindest regards in which my sisters join.

Yours Sincerely
Chas B Taylor

P.S.
I go back to Rae Town on the 3rd prox: T C

DSI

C. B. TAYLOR.

Mandeville P/O
~~22 Rae Street~~ Manchester
~~Rae Town, Kingston,~~

12th July 1902

My dear Capt. Robinson

I came out here on Tuesday, + all going well, mean to stop till end of Septr.

Your letter reaches me today + I congratulate you on your success in securing so many specimens of our prize Papilio, albeit they are poor specimens. I hope if you take any ♀s unfit for preservation as Cabinet Spms. you will turn them loose to perpetuate the race, as the Sp. is so very local. You have apparently struck the right locality at the right time, + I hope you will get some good

examples. A young English collector who was out here some little time back, worked over the same ground as you, but saw no Homerus; but then he was here at a bad time. Bath district is not so rich in Rhopalocera as in moths: still some good things are nearly always to be had there.

Climatic conditions count for so much here that it is never safe to say what a season will produce = species abundant one year in a certain place may absolutely vanish from that particular locality for years, & for no apparent reason. - I feel rather diffident about naming species from a written description, but I think the names I give below will be found fairly accurate:- small Phyciodes with black transverse bars = P. frocka =

other & larger Sp: is probably P. (Eresia) frisia, if not then I don't know it. There are probably 2 or 3 sp: of Phyciods is peculiar to Jamaica: I have one — taken this year at Bog Walk, St Katherine a new sp. apparently. Your Apatura — is no doubt Heterochroa (or more correctly) Adelpha abyla = (Hew.) We have only one Ithomia, a rather local & uncommon sp: it is Ithomia diaphana = Drury = & is peculiar to Jamaica. The small wood Butterfly with ocelli, is Calisto zangis, our only Satyrid. The very black Thecla of with orange spot on anal angle of under surface of h.w. is — Thecla pan. You are right as to the Cydonia taken among grass at Hope? authorities differ as to its being true nobilitella & I believe it is now

accorded Specific Rank as *jamaicensis*
The *Dilophonota* you describe =
suggests the Sp: *D. cramerii* = Schaus
or it *may* be *omphaleae*, *D. alope*,
also known as *anceryx fasciata*, has
yellow hind wings. We have quite
six or seven Sp: of the genus.

The *small* Eunica appears to
be *monima*, same as occurs in
Florida = I have taken this on Coral
Keys outside Port Royal, settled
on the mangrove bushes. You saw
the other & brighter Sp: *tatila* in
my Collection. I brought up my
nets &c. but find there are few
Butterflies about & those of the
very commonest Sp: Anyhow I
can do nothing as owing to threatened
trouble with my lungs I had to

DSI

got under medical treatment the
day after my arrival, & am forbidden
even <u>walking</u> exercise: Hard luck!
Later in the month more things
will come out, many sp: seem to
be just depositing eggs: the season has
been very backward. I hope your
Brother is better & that your stay
at Bath will be pleasant &
profitable: If I can afford you
any further information or help
don't hesitate to call upon me.

With kind regards
yours sincerely
Chas B. Taylor

Wareham Mass.
June 8. 1898

Dear Lieu. Robinson

Your rec. O.K. I am here now for the summer.

It must be terrible for you to be at that God forsaken place!

My paper on the Santa Marta birds is out — 10 new forms. I will send it to you with some others in a day or two — as soon as I get my seperates.

I have your book on hummers. but suppose I had better not return it to you till you get settled. What a war there

is, I hope it may soon be over.

I shall not do any collecting this summer probably.

There is another lot in the Custom House from Brown but it takes for ever to get these things through, somehow. Many more mammals in this one, as he has been collecting at higher altitudes.

Look out for Cuban macaws when you get to Cuba! Also get the mammals of the island — There ought to be an Oryzomys there.

Sincerely Yours
Outram Bangs.

DSI

American Museum of Natural History,
Central Park, (77th St. & 8th Ave.)

Department of
Mammalogy and Ornithology,
J. A. Allen, Curator.
Frank M. Chapman, Ass't Curator.

~~New York City,~~ July 30, 1894.
Asbury Park, N.J.

Lt. Wirt Robinson,
4th U.S. Artillery,
Washington, D.C.

Dear Sir:-

Your letter of July 22 & the 3 photographs duly rec'd, for which please accept sincere thanks. I would be very glad to have you write out more fully for The Auk, the incidents you relate in your letter, as soon as your convenience will permit — or, with your consent, I will print the last three pages of the letter as a communication from you to The Auk, as on second reading I see the essential points apparently are there stated -

Very truly yours
J. A. Allen

Joel A. Allen
Amer Zoologist
accompanied Agassiz to Brazil
good letter

Cambridge Sept. 22/00

Dear Capt. Robinson

First I must apologize for having abbreviated your title - I only heard within a few days of your well merited promotion.

I write to say that I have now pinned your specimens and find out what good things there are - The huge grasshopper is a different species from the one you gave me before and there are no less than three different species of Schistocerca - grasshoppers of the next grade in size and lots of other good things - There are very few of them that I have had before, so I send you my thanks once more

I was very glad to get your last letter (which came after I wrote) & to learn of your new position - I hope

that you will enjoy it and that Mrs Robinson will be pleased with settling at West Point - Will you please give her my regards?

Yours sincerely

Saml H. Scudder

DSI

Samuel Hubbard Scudder
American Naturalist
listed

DSI

Samuel H Scudder
Amer Naturalist
listed

Cambridge Aug 28/97

My dear Mr Robinson

I have had a drawing made & sent it to be reproduced. I hope to show you the result by the end of the week, when I will forward a proof.

Do you mind my mentioning your new food-supply when I write a notice to accompany this figure? I made a mistake of I told you that it was known before on ~~number of~~ alder only, for I have myself mentioned it as feeding on colonies of plant lice on ash & beech & it is found on several others; but maple-colonies have not before

been recorded

Yours Truly

David D. Scudder

DSI

DSI

Jan 9/97

Dear Capt. Robinson.

I enclose two lists which will give you the prices of the various papers which have appeared in the Proceedings of the Biological Society and shall be glad to forward them promptly as our Treasurer is gathering in money to start another volume. Trusting that all is well with you I remain

Cordially yours,

F. A. Lucas.

Frederic Augustus Lucas
American Naturalist
listed

DSI

THE
Academy of Natural Sciences
OF
PHILADELPHIA.
LOGAN SQUARE.

Philadelphia June 11 1898.

Lt. Wirt Robinson
Ft. Delaware

My dear sir:-
I was very glad to hear from you yesterday and quite surprised to know that you were located so near to us.
Delaware has been much neglected Ornithologically & any notes you collect relative to the birds in your vicinity are of much local interest.
As we have good sets of both the Least Bittern & Barn Owl from Delaware Co Penna I hardly think it worth while ~~to ask~~ you to send the specimens you

kindly offer.

In lieu of the Nuttall Club I should be glad to offer you the hospitality of the Del. Valley. Orn-ith. Club, but that Organization has adjourned for the summer. However I shall be very glad at any time to see you here at the Academy should you be able to run up to the city. I am usually here all the time (9am – 5pm) but should I be away Mr. Fowler one of our young ornithologists, will show you anything you may wish to see

Sincerely Yours

Witmer Stone

Witmer Stone
(Bird Naturalist
listed

OSI

Reading Nov. 28 1901

Dear Wirt

I was glad to hear from you you may well believe as I scarce knew if you were on top or underneath this world. I trust your father is in good health and spirits. Of the list you sent there

are only these that I can use in quite fine perfect examples:
Feniseca Tarquinius ×
Thecla Smilacis
Papilio Marcellus
Papilio Glaucus
Sphinx Rustica ×

I do hope that the 4cingulata back of the Thorax of the Sphinx is not rubbed as is almost inevitable when the example is placed in the paper without folding the wings back. I have a good many things I can give you for what you can spare of the above, the two sp. marked × I can use in any

number of perfect examples, the others in some moderate number. I return your list maybe it may serve you to send to some other fellow. Didn't your father get any good mothers as good Noctuids, smaller Bombycidae etc that all Gold Plusia & Basilodes Pepita, which I still want good examples of – I had the Grippe in red hot style from first of last February until eight weeks since and feel the cursed effects of it yet – If you have anythings not named either native or foreign I can identify the same for you anytime you may send them for that purpose – with best wishes yours

Affectionately Herman Strecker
Box 311 Reading P.O.
Penna.

DSI

The propositions which had been made were considered fair & equitable to both sides & it was believed that if they could be resubmitted as coming from the Council that they would or at least should be accepted. Jeffries was authorised to re-draft them and after receiving the approval of the Council they are to be sent to Kennard & to Howe by the Secretary, & if they accept them the matter will be ended so far as the Club is concerned. An essential part of the arrangement will be an apology to the Club from Howe to be also drafted by Jeffries & submitted to the Council.

I am inclined to think that this is the only practicable way out of the difficulty. The feeling is very strong & so divided that it would not be safe to discuss the evidence or to attempt to settle where the blame really lies. On the other hand the Council could not refuse altogether to take notice of the case without giving lasting offence to some of Kennard's supporters & to one or two men who think that the confidence of the club has been outraged. If a reconciliation can be effected everybody will be satisfied or will have to pretend to be. The precedent established may be dangerous — I am inclined to think it is dangerous — but it would be even more dangerous to take any other action which has been suggested. I think you would have felt this had you been here and heard what was said. Jeffries was the fairest & wisest, as well as the most temperate, of us all & his suggestions were nearly all approved & adopted almost as soon as they were made. He was absolutely fair & just in everything that he said about Howe.

Very sincerely

William Brewster.

listed
Wm. Brewster ornithologist

for the purposes of a preliminary consideration. Jeffries had before this moved a resolution, which was carried unanimously, to the effect that it was proper and desirable for the Council to investigate, and, if necessary, take action upon, cases where members have accused of having violated the confidence of the club it being understood that this resolution was general in its character & not formulated for the express purpose of meeting the Kennard-Howe case.

It was then stated by me and confirmed by Allen that negotiations had been undertaken by each of us to bring Kennard & Howe together on the basis of mutual apologies & reconciliation but that they had failed. The facts & correspondence connected with these attempts were called for and stated or read. Some of

145 Brattle Street,
Cambridge, Mass.

February 3rd, 1898.

Dear Lieut Robinson:-

We were all sorry for your absence last evening and especially sorry for the cause. I trust you are now feeling better.

No doubt you will like to hear what was done. The members present were Jeffries, Batchelder, Bangs, Mackay, Allen, Davis and myself.

Jeffries & I objected to any detailed examination of the evidence and a bare statement of the alleged essential facts was finally accepted as sufficient

SP 24
02
JAMAICA

Capt: Wirt Robinson
West Point
New York
U.S.A

Oct 3.1902

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REC'D. OCT 3 10AM 1902 N.Y.

KINGSTON E SP 25 02 JAMAICA

DSI

NEW YORK, N.Y. OCT 2 7 30 PM 1902

HERMAN STRECKER,
BOX 311, READING P. O.
BERKS COUNTY,
PENNA.

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PA.

Capt. Wirt Robinson

West Point

New York.

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July 15 - 1902

Capt: Wirt Robinson
Bath P/O
St Thomas Ye East

KINGSTON
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JAMAICA

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SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTION
UNITED STATES NATIONAL MUSEUM
WASHINGTON, D. C.

November 6, 1941.

Mrs. Wirt Robinson,
Shoreham Hotel,
Washington, D.C.

Dear Mrs. Robinson:

Following our conversation by telephone I am sending you herewith the article from the Smithsonian Annual Report by Mr. David I. Bushnell, Jr. on "The Use of Soapsone by the Indians of the Eastern United Sates". I am sure that you will find the content interesting.

May I call your attention to page 488 where, under Plate 6, No. 3, there is a statement about the soapstone vessel, the pieces of which were collected by Colonel Robinson. (The specimen is figured in the bottom figure on page 6.) Whenever I see this I always remember Colonel Robinson's reference to these stone pots as his life work because of the long period in which he was engaged in locating the pieces!

Sincerely yours,

A. Wetmore

A. Wetmore,
Assistant Secretary.

P.S. Why Mr. Bushnell should have referred to Colonel Robinson as "Major" is beyond me to explain except that he was probably in the same condition of mind as I am with regard to one of my neighbors, an officer in the Navy who has been promoted from Commander to Captain but who I have to remember carefully to address now by his proper title. As Mr. Bushnell knew Colonel Robinson for many years his memory probably went back to the time when he was a Major. Our records in the matter as to the title of Colonel are correct.

A.W.

Alexander Wetmore

Amer Biologist & Bulletin
on bird Migration
free listing

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